

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 58th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN BOB DEPRATU**, on March 21, 2003 at 8:04 A.M., in Room 102 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Bob DePratu, Chairman (R)
Sen. Bob Story Jr., Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)
Sen. John C. Bohlinger (R)
Sen. Jon Ellingson (D)
Sen. Jim Elliott (D)
Sen. Bill Glaser (R)
Sen. Dan Harrington (D)
Sen. Walter McNutt (R)
Sen. Mike Taylor (R)
Sen. Ken Toole (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch
Shirley Herrin, Committee Secretary

Video-taped Committee: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. A video-taped recording of the meeting is available from the Montana Historical Society.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: SB 475, 3/17/2003; SB 478,
3/17/2003; SB 477, 3/17/2003
Executive Action: None.

HEARING ON SB 475

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

8:05 **SEN. JOHN ESP, SD 13, Big Timber** "Realty transfer tax over \$75K on residences and agricultural land -- income tax credit."

Proponents' Testimony:

8:07 Tim Davis, MT Smart Growth Coalition **EXHIBIT(tas60a01)**
8:08 Judy Smith, Fair Share Network
8:09 **SEN. ROBERT STORY, SD 12, Park City**

Opponents' Testimony:

8:12 Peggy Trenk, MT Association of Realtors
8:15 Linda Cockhill, Vice President, Real Estate Loan Department, Mountain West Bank **EXHIBIT(tas60a02)**
8:22 Stuart Doggett, MT Land Title Association
8:22 Mary Whittinghill, MT Taxpayers Association
8:23 Webb Brown, MT Chamber of Commerce
8:23 Nancy Schlepp, MT Farm Bureau Association
8:24 Ronda Carpenter, Great Falls Chamber of Commerce

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

8:25 Begin
8:49 Ended
24 min Time elapsed.

Closing by Sponsor:

8:49 **SEN. ESP** closed on SB 475.

CHAIRMAN DEPRATU welcomed a group of Boy Scouts to the committee hearing. Matt Hall, Billings, was the spokesman for Troop # 23.

HEARING ON SB 478

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

8:53 **SEN. ROBERT STORY JR., SD 12, Park City** "Change levy by political subdivisions for premium contributions for group benefits."

Proponents' Testimony:

8:57 Mary Whittinghill, MT Taxpayers Assoc.
 EXHIBIT(tas60a03)
9:03 Webb Brown, MT Chamber of Commerce.
9:04 Harold Blattie, MACo **EXHIBIT(tas60a04)**
9:11 Alec Hansen, League of Cities and Towns
9:14 Linda Stoll, Missoula Count

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Witnesses:

9:16 Ronda Carpenter, MT County Treasurers Association

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

9:18 SEN. STORY closed on SB 478.

HEARING ON SB 477

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

9:20 SEN. DAN HARRINGTON, SD 19, Butte "Allow volunteer firefighters an additional income tax exemption of \$3,000."

Proponents' Testimony:

9:22 Dave Kneebone, Silver Bow County, Self

9:30 John Semple, MT Fire Alliance

Opponents' Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

9:31 Begin

9:42 Ended

11 min Time elapsed

Closing by Sponsor:

9:42 SEN. HARRINGTON closed on SB 477.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:45 A.M.

SEN. BOB DEPRATU, Chairman

SHIRLEY HERRIN, Secretary

BD/SH

EXHIBIT (tas60aad)